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ABSTRACT

This guide provides information about funding resources available from the Federal government for programs involving educational technology. Funding programs are included for the following government agencies: U.S. Department of Education; Department of Commerce; National Science Foundation (NSF); Department of Energy (DOE); National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA); U.S. Department of Defense--Advanced Research Projects Agency; U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA); and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). Program descriptions, funding allocation, contact, and application information are provided for each grant listed. A brief description and ordering information are provided for other funding guide sources: "The USDLA Funding Source Book for Distance Learning and Educational Technology," "Directory of Building and Equipment Grants," and "Federal Register." (SWC)

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Resource Guide to Federal Funding For Technology in Education

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U.S. Department of Education

★Technology Literacy Challenge Fund
Supports efforts to meet the four national technology goals for schools: modern computers, high quality educational software, trained teachers, and affordable connections to the Internet. Fund used to encourage and leverage efforts by states, communities, and the private sector to work in partnership with schools. States apply for this grant, which will be awarded according to the ESEA Title I formula. $200 million has been appropriated for FY97. Contact Tom Fagan, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Ave., Suite 4900, Washington, DC 20202-6100, (202) 401-0039, www.ed.gov/Technology.

★National Challenge Grants for Technology in Education
Awards grants to consortia which must include at least one local educational agency with a high percentage of children living below the poverty line and which may include other local educational agencies, State educational agencies, institutions of higher learning, businesses, academic content experts, software designers, museums, libraries, or other appropriate entities. Promotes the integration of technology into curriculum to help the local educational agency enhance teaching, training, and student achievement; promotes ongoing, sustained professional development for teachers, administrators, and school library media personnel served by the local educational agency to further the use of technology in the classroom or library media center; and ensures the successful, effective, and sustainable use of technologies acquired. $57 million has been appropriated to fund approximately 14 new grants in FY97; the next round of competitions will be in the Spring of 1997. Contact Tom Carroll, Office of Educational Research and Improvement, U.S. Department of Education, 555 New Jersey Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20208, (202) 208-3882, www.ed.gov/Technology.

★Star Schools Program
Supports telecommunications partnerships to provide telecommunications equipment and programming to underserved students including those living in rural and urban areas. Through support from the Star Schools Program, more than 50,000 teachers along with a host of administrators, parents, and policy makers have participated in staff development and community awareness activities produced via satellite, compressed video technology, fiber optics, videodisc, and microcomputer-based networks. The Star Schools program helps to improve instruction in underserved areas through fostering the use of distance learning projects. The next round of competitions for Star Schools grants is in the spring of 1997. Approximately $30 million has been allocated for FY97. Contact Cheryl Garnette, Star Schools, U.S. Department of Education, Office of Educational Research and Improvement, 555 New Jersey Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20208, (202) 219-2267, www.ed.gov/Technology.

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★Public Library Construction and Technology Enhancement -- (State Program)
Provides grants to States for facilities and technology enhancements to improve the provision of public library services. States may approve local projects for construction, remodeling, or alteration of existing

buildings. Funds may also be used for technology enhancement purposes apart from any construction project. States have combined funds provided for the Public Library Services Program and the Interlibrary Cooperation and Resource Sharing Program to support the purchase of equipment and network connections for libraries. Contact Donald Fork, U.S. Department of Education, Office of Educational Research and Improvement, 555 New Jersey Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20208. (State library administrative agencies may apply by contacting the State Programs Division at 202-219-1303.)

★**Technology, Educational Media, and Materials for Individuals with Disabilities**
Funds projects and centers for advancing the use of new technology, assistive technology, media, and materials in the education of children and youth who are disabled and the provision of related services and early intervention services to infants and toddlers with disabilities. State and local education agencies, institutions of higher education, and profit and nonprofit public and private agencies and organizations may apply. Contact Carol Cohen, Team Leader, U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, 330 C Street SW, Washington, DC 20202, (202) 205-5666.

★**Small Business Innovation Research Program (SBIR)**
Seeks to help meet federal R&D needs and to stimulate technological innovation in small businesses, while requiring private sector commercialization of developed products. The Department of Education's SBIR program has focused on the development of products which use computers and other high tech equipment for teaching and learning basic skills, science and foreign languages such as software programs; and providing the physically disabled opportunities to function more easily in society. The funding level for FY97 is projected to be $4.6 million. Contact Lee Eiden, U.S. Department of Education, Office of Educational Research and Improvement, 555 New Jersey Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20208, (202) 219-2004.

Additional Funding Sources for Software and Hardware

★**TITLE I, ESEA**
Funds almost one-third of all software and hardware used primarily for basic skills instruction by schools. $7 billion was appropriated for FY97.

★**Chapter 2, ESEA**
In FY94 approximately $125 million of Chapter 2 funds were spent on software and hardware purchases. A total of $347 million was appropriated for FY95 and $550 million for FY96; $620 million was appropriated for FY97.

★**School-to-Work**
Provides grants to states and communities for the implementation of School-to-Work programs integrating academic and vocational learning with work-based learning. Software and related technology-based applications can be supported through these programs. Department of Education's funding set at $200 million for FY97.

★**Goals 2000**
Provided a planning grant to each state to integrate technology into overall state education improvement plans. $350 million was appropriated in FY96 to help implement the overall state improvement plans, and $491 million was allocated for FY97.

★**Eisenhower Professional Development State Grants**
Most of the current Eisenhower program funds are used for teacher training, including the use and

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integration of different technologies into math and science curricula. Only in schools with enrollment of 50% or more from low-income families can the school use all Eisenhower funds for hardware and software purchases. $310 million was appropriated for FY97.

★**Even Start**
Provided pre-K-1 schools with $102 million in FY97. FY98 funding also set at $102 million.

The Department of Commerce

★**The Telecommunications and Information Infrastructure Application Program (TIIAP)**
Awards matching grants to state and local governments and nonprofit organizations for the planning and construction of telecommunications networks for the provision of educational, cultural, health care, public information, public safety and other social services. Approximately $21.5 million is available for the program in FY 97. Contact National Telecommunications and Information Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4096, 14th and Constitution Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20230, (202) 482-2048, www.ntia.doc.gov/otiahome/otiahome.html.

★**The Public Telecommunications Facilities Program (PTFP)**
Awards matching grants to non-commercial entities to purchase telecommunications equipment with the stipulation that the equipment be used for educational or cultural purposes. PTFP also provides smaller grants to assist these entities in planning for the purchase and use of telecommunications equipment. In FY97 approximately $13.4 million is available for both types of grants. Contact Dennis Connor, Director, Public Telecommunications Facilities Program, National Telecommunications and Information Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4625, 14th and Constitution Ave NW, Washington, DC 20230, (202) 482-5802, www.ntia.doc.gov/otiahome/otiahome.html.

National Science Foundation (NSF)

Below is a selected list of NSF grants. For a complete list you can obtain a copy of the Grant Proposal Guide, the Grant Policy Manual, the NSF Guide to Programs, and other NSF publications at no cost from: Forms and Publications Unit, Room P15, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230, (703) 306-1130, Fax: (703) 644-4278, pubs@nsf.gov.

★**Teacher Enhancement Program (TE)**
Seeks to improve, broaden, and deepen the interdisciplinary and pedagogical knowledge of teachers, administrators, and others who play significant roles in providing quality mathematics, science, and technology education for students from pre-kindergarten through grade 12. To this end, TE promotes systemic change, in-service teacher development, dissemination, and other activities. Contact Teacher Enhancement Program, Directorate for Education and Human Resources, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22230, (703) 306-1613.

★**Comprehensive Partnerships for Mathematics and Science Achievement (CPMSA)**
Supports school systems with significant minority populations in creating partnerships to improve the access of minority students in grades K-12 in science and mathematics education. School systems are encouraged to create partnerships with institutions of higher education, businesses, professional organizations, community-based organizations, and other educational organizations. City/county school

systems, which are the units of change, are expected to work with these partners in the design and implementation of in-school student enrichment and teacher enhancement activities and informal education efforts. Contact Alexandra King, Comprehensive Partnerships for Mathematics and Science Achievement Program, Division of Human Resources Development, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22230, (703) 306-1633.

★**Instructional Materials Development (IMD)**
Projects promote students' positive attitudes toward science, mathematics, and technology, as well as positive perceptions of themselves as learners. By incorporating investigative, hands-on science and mathematics, they should facilitate changes in the basic delivery of classroom instruction. Any organization with a scientific or educational mission may submit a proposal. Contact Instructional Materials Development Program, Directorate for Education and Human Resources, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd, Arlington, VA 22230, (703) 306-1614.

★**Course and Curriculum Development (CCD) program, NSF Division of Undergraduate Education**
Seeks to encourage the development of courses and curricula that will help meet the Nation's need for high-quality scientists, mathematicians, engineers, and technicians, to encourage both dedicated and able teachers at the precollege and college levels; to encourage scientifically and technically literate citizens; and to inspire faculty to devote creative energy to educational activities. Grants provided for the planning, implementation, assessment, and dissemination of projects that are designed to improve curricula and the learning environment and to develop new courses, materials, software, and technologies. Contact Course and Curriculum Development Program, Division of Undergraduate Education, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Room 835, Arlington, VA 22230, (703) 306-1666.

★**Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching Program**
Provides national recognition to outstanding elementary, middle, and secondary school teachers. Each year, two mathematics teachers (one elementary school and one middle/junior/senior high school) and two science teachers (one elementary school and one middle/junior/senior high school) from each state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Department of Defense Dependent Schools, and the U.S. Territories are selected for this honor. The program seeks to enhance the status and visibility of the teaching profession by identifying and rewarding exemplary teachers. Awardees are brought to Washington, DC, for a week of activities and professional interaction. Contact Emma Walton, Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching, Directorate for Education and Human Resources, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22230, (703) 306-0422.

★**Research on Education, Policy, and Practice (REPP) Program**
Research activities in the Division of Research, Evaluation and Communication (REC), will be consolidated into a new research program, Research on Education, Policy, and Practice (REPP). REPP supports cultivation of a research base for implementing innovative K-16, i.e., elementary, secondary, and undergraduate reform strategies, as well as ways of improving graduate, professional, and informal and lifelong learning. Technology funding interests include: How tools that link individuals and institutions dispersed in space and across cultures can be used to teach and learn the changing content of science and mathematics; how the evolving capacity of computers and other technologies enables teachers to individualize instruction and students to engage in the processes of experimentation, of understanding, of skills acquisition and of applying content knowledge; and how high performance computing and communications empower the effectiveness of educational administrators, policymakers, and researchers. Target dates for preliminary proposals (required) are March 15 and September 15 each year; Full Proposal deadlines are June 1 and December 1. Contact Research on Education, Policy, and Practice Program (REPP/REC/EHR), Room 855, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22230, (703) 306-1651; to request publications, (703) 306-1130.

★Recognition Awards for the Integration of Research and Education
The program will make awards that recognize up to ten research-intensive universities that have shown leadership, innovation, and achievement in their efforts to integrate research and education (specifically college freshmen through Ph.D.) throughout their organizations . Awards will be for $500,000 with a duration of three years. Contact Office of Science and Technology Infrastructure, Room 1270, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22230, (703) 306-1040.

★Statewide Systemic Initiatives
Encourages improvements in science, mathematics, and technology education through comprehensive systemic changes in the education systems of the states. No new competition is scheduled. (Currently 22 states and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico are active awardees.) Contact Statewide Systemic Initiatives, Directorate for Education and Human Resources, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd, Arlington, Virginia 22230, (703) 306-1682.

★Urban Systemic Initiatives
Established to challenge the Nation's commitment to effect sustained school reform in its urban centers. Through this initiative, the Foundation invites a limited number of large cities to launch systemic programs to foster experimentation, accelerate the rate of change, and implement system-wide improvement in student learning for grades K-12 in mathematics, science, and technology. The following cities are eligible for the USI Program: Atlanta, Baltimore, Boston, Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, Dallas, Detroit, El Paso, Fresno, Houston, Indianapolis, Jacksonville, Los Angeles, Memphis, Miami, Milwaukee, New Orleans, New York City, Phoenix, Philadelphia, Ponce, San Antonio, San Diego, San Juan, and St. Louis. Contact USI Program, Directorate for Education and Human Resources, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd, Arlington, VA 22230, (703) 306-1682.

★Rural Systemic Initiatives (RSI) Program
Seeks to stimulate systemic educational reform and improvement of science, mathematics, and technology education in rural, economically disadvantaged regions, not limited by state or geographic boundaries. Sustainability of educational improvements is assured through encouraging community development activities in conjunction with instructional and policy reform. Contact Jody Chase or Jerry Gipp, Rural Systemic Initiatives Program, Directorate for Education and Human Resources, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd, Arlington, Virginia 22230, (703) 306-1690.

Department of Energy (DOE)

The Department of Energy's 10 national laboratories and 30 specialized technology centers and research facilities provide educational experiences for students, training, and curriculum materials for pre-service and inservice teachers, and literacy programs for the general public. DOE also supports statewide systemic initiatives to reform math, science and technology education in 13 states. DOE serves hundreds of thousands of teachers and students each year through science and technology education programs. DOE's technology offerings range broadly from equipment loan and donation programs to long-term research studies on the overall effectiveness of specific educational technologies for classroom instruction.

★Small Business Innovation Research Program (SBIR)
Seeks to increase private sector commercialization of technology developed through DOE supported R&D in any scientific or engineering activity which is a systemic, intensive study directed toward greater knowledge or understanding of the subject; a systemic study directed specifically toward applying new

knowledge to meet a recognized need; and/or a systemic application of knowledge toward the production of useful materials, devices, and systems or methods, including design, development, and improvement of prototypes and new processes to meet specific requirements. Awards approximately 200 grants to small businesses at $75,000 per grant. Contact the SBIR Program Manager, ER-33, U.S. Department of Energy, 19901 Germantown Road, Germantown, MD 20874-1290, (301) 903-5867.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)

★**Small Business Innovation Program (SBIR)**
This program seeks to develop innovative technologies by providing competitive research contracts to U.S. owned small businesses to develop leading-edge technologies. Provides Phase I grants of up to $70,000 to establish feasibility and merit of proposed innovation, and Phase II grants of up to $600,000 based on Phase I results. Contact, SBIR Program Manager, Code XC, NASA, Washington, DC 20546-0001, (301) 918-8150.

U.S. Department of Defense - Advanced Research Projects Agency

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★**Defense Technology Conversion, Reinvestment, and Transition Assistance - The Technology Reinvestment Project (TRP)**
TRP is a six agency technology investment effort that includes the Departments of Defense, Commerce, Energy, and Transportation, the NSF, and NASA. The program requires participation in partnerships and focuses on cost sharing between the partnerships, assisting small businesses and defense-dependent businesses. TRP seeks to develop dual-use technologies, to deploy manufacturing and technology assistance to small firms, and to establish education and training programs that enhance U.S. manufacturing skills and target displaced defense industry workers. Contact 1-800-DUAL-USE, or email Dual-Use@arpa.mil.

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)

★**The Agricultural Telecommunications Program**
The Agricultural Telecommunications Program is a competitive grants program, authorized by the 1990 Farm Bill to encourage the development of an agricultural communications network to facilitate and strengthen agricultural extension, resident instruction, research, and domestic and international marketing of United States Agricultural commodities and products through partnerships between eligible institutions and the Department of Agriculture. This program represents partnership efforts among USDA and both land-grant and other university communities emphasizing communication networks and distance education. Contact Cathy Bridwell, Agricultural Communications Program, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20250, (202) 720-6084, www.reeusda.gov.

★**The Rural Utilities Service Telecommunications Loan Program**
RUS financing is used by rural telecommunications providers to build new and modernize existing telecommunications networks, connect new subscribers in unserved areas, and provide the transmission and switching facilities necessary for economic development, distance learning and telemedicine applications, and Internet access. As of September 1995, 218 borrowers provided access to the Internet, resulting in 2.7 million users. Contact Rural Utility Service, 1400 Independence Ave. SW, Washington, DC 20250-1538, (202) 720-1255, www.usda.gov/rus/.

★The Rural Utilities Service Distance Learning Grant Program
Since 1993 this program has provided 119 grants totaling $35 million to rural schools, hospitals and medical clinics in 39 states and one territory. The RUS Distance Learning grant program provides grants directly to rural schools, libraries, and other educational institutions for the development of advanced telecommunications systems. Contact Rural Utility Service, 1400 Independence Ave. SW, Washington, DC 20250- 1538, (202) 720-1255, www.usda.gov/rus/.

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)

For more information on the NEH programs listed here, contact the Division of Research ad Education at (202) 606-8380, education@neh.fed.us, research@neh.fed.us, http://www.neh.fed.us, or write to Division of Research and Education, National Endowment for the Humanities, 1100 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20506.

★Humanities Focus Grants
These grants are small awards, up to $25,000, which go to specific projects in the humanities, including the use of technology. Deadline for application is April 18, 1997.

★Teaching with Technology
This program funds three types of projects: materials development, field testing and classroom applications, and teacher preparation for integrating technology into the classroom. Deadline for application is October 1, 1997.

★National Summer Institutes and Seminars
Seminars are small groups of teachers who want to receive teacher training from a scholar in their field of interest. Institutes are groups of 25 teachers who study work with a faculty of scholars to explore in depth materials related to the subjects they teach. For more information call (202) 606-8463 and ask to speak with a program officer. Deadlines are March 1, 1997 and March 1, 1998 for the following summers.

★Challenge Grants
The challenge grant program helps academic institutions and cultural organizations to secure long term support for and improvements in their programs, activities and resources related to the humanities, including the use and applications of technology. The matching requirement challenges institutions to raise non-federal funds to match and/or exceed the federal award. In recent years, the federal portions of the grants have ranged from $25,000 to $1 million. Application deadline is May 1, 1997. For more information call (202) 606-8309, or email challenge@neh.fed.us.

Other Funding Guide Sources

★The USDLA Funding Source Book for Distance Learning and Educational Technology
The USDLA Funding Source Book is a 400+ page publication complete with electronic and print references of funding sources for technology. It is available for $42.50 plus $4.00 shipping. To order contact Kendall Publishing at 1-800-228-0810. To obtain information electronically, visit http://www.technogrants.com.

★Directory of Building and Equipment Grants
This directory lists funding sources for equipment, building and renovation and innovative procedures to

secure funding for computers and free computer software. The cost is $57.50 + $6.00 shipping and handling. For information call (407) 795-6129, and to order fax a mailing label or order form to (407) 795-7794.

★Federal Register
This daily publication contains notices of new grants from federal agencies, grant application guidelines, and regulations and requirements for federal grant programs. To order contact: Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, PO Box 371954, Pittsburgh, PA 15250-7954. For phone orders and general publication inquiries, call (202) 512-1800.

In addition, check with your State Department of Education or contact John Cradler at the Council of the Chief State School Officers to obtain the name of your state's technology coordinator, (202) 336-7003.

Final Note

It is important to point out that this guide is by no means complete. It is intended to provide some of the resources available throughout the Federal government for educational technology. Hopefully this list, in conjunction with resources in your area, will provide the assistance necessary for locating funding sources in the area of educational technology.

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